

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 427 - SB 617

February 25, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the Department of Correction (DOC) to contract with private probation providers to supervise Class C and Class D felons.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increased State Expenditures – Not Significant

Other Fiscal Impact – Expanding the Department of Correction’s authority to contract for probation may provide more opportunity to reduce costs if contract terms can be crafted with private probation providers that result in fewer felons violating probation and going into incarceration.

Assumptions:

- Under current law, the DOC may contract with private probation providers to supervise Class E felons and misdemeanants. The bill would expand the eligible offenders to include Class C and Class D felons.
- The DOC reports that it issued a request for proposal for private probation providers to supervise its currently eligible offenders (i.e. Class E felons and misdemeanants), but received no responses because private providers did not want to provide these services under the department’s guidelines and fee restrictions.
- Expanding the types of felons that may be supervised by private probation providers does not directly trigger any action by the DOC that would alter their expenditures.
- Expanded authority may provide DOC more opportunity to reduce costs if contract terms can be crafted with private probation providers that result in fewer felons violating probation and going into incarceration.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding".

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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